

BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL SOIL SCIENTISTS AND WETLAND PROFESSIONALS MEETING MINUTES

The Board for Professional Soil Scientists and Wetland Professionals met on April 22, 2009, at the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation, 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia, with the following members present:

Robert B. Atkinson
Nancy Barker
W. Lee Daniels
Penelope Melino
Angela Whitehead

Board member David Davis was not present at the meeting.

Staff present for all or part of the meeting were:

Jay W. DeBoer, Director
Mark N. Courtney, Deputy Director of Licensing and Regulation
Kathleen R. Nosbisch, Executive Director
Marian N. Brooks, Program Administrator
Amy Goobic, Administrative Assistant

There was no representative present from the Office of the Attorney General.

Finding a quorum of the Board present, Dr. Atkinson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Call to Order

Ms. Nosbisch advised the Board of the board room evacuation procedures.

Emergency Evacuation Procedures

Mr. Daniels moved to approve the agenda. Ms. Melino seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by members: Atkinson, Barker, Daniels, Melino, and Whitehead.

Approval of Agenda

Ms. Nosbisch introduced staff members: Amy Goobic, Administrative Assistant, Sheree Dean, Office Manager and Joan Leonard, Licensing Specialist.

Introduction of Staff

Ms. Barker moved to approve the minutes from the January 28, 2009, Board meeting. Mr. Daniels seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by members: Atkinson, Barker, Daniels, Melino, and Whitehead.

Approval of Minutes

Public Comment Period – There were no comments made to the Board.

Public Comment Period

Discussion was held regarding requirements for wetland delineator's certification. The discussion was prompted by an applicant who requested that continuing education hours substitute for college course work. Ms. Barker moved that, pursuant to 18VAC 145-30-60.A, any equivalent certification coursework must be equal to college level semester hour coursework from an accredited institution of higher education. Ms. Melino seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by members: Atkinson, Barker, Daniels, Melino, and Whitehead.

Discussion of Professional Development courses toward overall credit required for licensure

Ms. Nosbisch presented the response to the Virginia Association of Wetland Professionals e-mail regarding the revisions to the delineator certification test due to the implementation of the Atlantic/Gulf Coast Regional Supplement to the 1987 Wetland Delineation Manual. Ms. Nosbisch responded on behalf of the Board, that until further developments were made on a second supplement for the Piedmont/Appalachian area, no changes would be made to the exam.

Response to Virginia Association of Wetland Professionals e-mail

The Board members were provided with the Board financial statements for information purposes.

Review Financial Statements

Ms. Nosbisch advised the Board that there are 84 certified Wetland Delineators and 142 certified Soil Scientists. The January exam for Soil Scientists resulted in 3 of 5 passing; the February Wetland Delineator exam resulted in 6 of 8 passing.

Other Business

Ms. Nosbisch recognized the week of April 26 through May 3, as Soil Stewardship Week.

Mr. Courtney notified the Board of two previous bills, SB 1270 and HB 3134, concerning AOSE's licensing transfer from Virginia Department of Health to the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation Waterworks and Wastewater Works Operators and On Site Sewage Systems Professionals Board (WWWOSSP). He explained that the permitting will remain with VDH and that the regulations are now going through the executive branch.

Conflict of Interest forms were completed by all members present.

Conflict of Interest Forms

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

Adjournment

Robert Atkinson, Chair

Jay W. DeBoer, Secretary